

come to an agreement that the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee will carefully consider this issue early next year. I look forward to following these proceedings to develop effective measures to ensure that the federal agencies have adequate resources to maintain essential program activities as well as fighting wildfires that occur with increasing frequency. I thank my colleagues for their commitment to addressing this widely recognized budgeting problem to allow our mutual community protection and forest restoration objectives to be achieved.

Mr. CRAIG. As I told Senator BINGAMAN, I agree that this is a serious issue and I have been working hard on resolving the problem myself. I appreciate the concerns of Senator BAUCUS and MCCAIN and thank them for not offering their amendment. This issue will be my top priority once we finish the healthy forests bill. I pledge to work with Senator BAUCUS, Senator MCCAIN and the Chairmen and Ranking Members of all the relevant committees to find a workable solution.

Mr. BURNS. I join my colleagues in noting the magnitude and urgency of this issue. As chairman of the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee, which funds wildland firefighting, I know firsthand how disruptive this borrowing cycle can be on federal agencies. Public lands states like my home State of Montana are at risk for both ends of the fire disaster when accounts are not repaid quickly. As we work toward a solution, I believe it is important that we work with the Administration and the relevant Congressional Committees such as the Budget Committee. We should also address the very real concern that firefighting costs continue to escalate year after year. Congress needs to better understand why costs per acre continue to rise and how we can reverse that cycle. Efforts by the Wildland Fire Leadership Council and their current review of firefighting costs can help us with this challenge and we can use their knowledge as a foundation for our future policy decisions.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I agree with the chairman of the Interior appropriations subcommittee, Senator BURNS, that this yearly problem of borrowing and paying back must be addressed. Those discussions need to include the relevant authorizing committees, the Budget Committee, and, of sources, the Appropriations Committee. As the Ranking Member of the Interior subcommittee, I would be pleased to work with my colleagues any way that I can.

Mr. BAUCUS. I thank all of my colleagues for their commitment to this issue.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I thank all Senators who worked hard to put this bill together. They have all been mentioned by each other a number of times. I am grateful for everybody's contribution to this effort.

It has truly been a joint effort on both sides of the aisle, across committee lines, across regional lines, and for that I am very grateful. I think we can all be proud of the work the Senate has done this evening.

I also have to mention the work of our staff members. Our great staff includes Hunt Shipman, who is staff director in the Agriculture Committee, and the following staff members who worked hard on this project: Lance Kotschwar, West Higginbotham, Doug MacCleery, Graham Harper, Dave Johnson, as well as the staff of the Senate Energy Committee under the chairmanship of Senator DOMENICI.

I hope all Senators will support the final passage of the bill.

I ask for third reading of the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute.

The committee amendment was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on the engrossment of the committee amendment and third reading of the bill.

The amendment was ordered to be engrossed and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays on final passage of the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The clerk will call the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I announce that the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY) is necessarily absent.

Mr. REID. I announce that the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. EDWARDS), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. HOLLINGS), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) are necessarily absent.

I also announce that the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON) is absent attending a family funeral.

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) would vote "nay."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 80, nays 14, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 428 Leg.]

YEAS—80

Akaka	Bunning	Corzine
Alexander	Burns	Craig
Allard	Byrd	Crapo
Allen	Campbell	Daschle
Baucus	Chafee	Dayton
Bennett	Chambliss	DeWine
Bingaman	Cochran	Dole
Bond	Coleman	Domenici
Boxer	Collins	Dorgan
Breaux	Conrad	Ensign
Brownback	Cornyn	Enzi

Feingold	Landrieu	Roberts
Feinstein	Lautenberg	Santorum
Fitzgerald	Levin	Sarbanes
Frist	Lincoln	Sessions
Graham (FL)	Lott	Smith
Graham (SC)	Lugar	Snowe
Grassley	McCaIn	Specter
Gregg	McConnell	Stabenow
Hagel	Mikulski	Stevens
Hatch	Miller	Sununu
Hutchison	Murkowski	Talent
Inhofe	Murray	Thomas
Inouye	Nelson (FL)	Voinovich
Johnson	Nickles	Warner
Kohl	Pryor	Wyden
Kyl	Reid	

NAYS—14

Bayh	Dodd	Leahy
Biden	Durbin	Reed
Cantwell	Harkin	Rockefeller
Carper	Jeffords	Schumer
Clinton	Kennedy	

NOT VOTING—6

Edwards	Kerry	Nelson (NE)
Hollings	Lieberman	Shelby

The bill (H.R. 1904), as amended, was passed.

The bill will be printed in a future edition of the RECORD.

Mr. COCHRAN. I move to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed.

Mr. CRAPO. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendment to the title is agreed to.

The title was amended so as to read:

An Act to improve the capacity of the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to conduct hazardous fuels reduction projects on National Forest System lands and Bureau of Land Management lands aimed at protecting communities, watersheds, and certain other at-risk lands from catastrophic wildfire, to enhance efforts to protect watersheds and address threats to forest and rangeland health, including catastrophic wildfire, across the landscape, and for other purposes.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I move to reconsider.

Mr. LEAHY. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2004—Resumed

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the pending business.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2800) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes.

Pending:

DeWine amendment No. 1966, to increase assistance to combat HIV/AIDS.

McConnell amendment No. 1970, to express the sense of the Senate on Burma.

Feinstein amendment No. 1977, to clarify the definition of HIV/AIDS prevention for purposes of providing funds for therapeutic medical care.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

AMENDMENT NO. 1966

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask for the regular order with respect to the DeWine amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The regular order has been called for, and the DeWine amendment is once again the pending question.

Is there further debate on the amendment?

The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, Members of the Senate, there are very few times when we have the opportunity to come to the floor when we know that the vote we will cast will save hundreds of thousands of lives.

The amendment we have before us will do that. I am very pleased that we have reached an agreement on the amendment that Senator DURBIN and I have offered to provide an additional \$289 million for the fight against global AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis.

Mr. President, this money will clearly save lives. Adopting this amendment is the right thing to do, and I want to thank so many of my colleagues for their support and their own efforts to fight the global AIDS epidemic.

First, I thank my colleague from Illinois, and the cosponsor of this amendment, Senator DURBIN. Senator DURBIN and I have traveled to Haiti. I have had the opportunity to watch Senator DURBIN hold children who have HIV who are very sick. I have seen how compassionate he is, how much he cares.

This is the third time Senator DURBIN and I have come to the floor and offered amendments to add additional funds to this fight against AIDS. I thank my colleague for his great work.

I thank my colleague, the majority leader, Senator BILL FRIST. No one knows more about this problem. No one has done more about this problem. Many of us had the opportunity, this past August, to go on a trip with Senator FRIST to Africa. It was an educational trip for all of us.

BILL FRIST is a teacher. He is a doctor. He is a leader. He has done a great deal, and I salute him for his great work.

I also thank Senator RICK SANTORUM, who is a compassionate individual and who is passionate about this cause. It was RICK SANTORUM who first began working with the leadership and who first suggested, frankly, the formula that is in front of us today; he came up with these numbers. I salute him for his work.

I thank Senator MITCH MCCONNELL and Senator LEAHY for bringing a very good bill to the floor. This bill will do a tremendous amount of good around the world.

It truly is an instrument of our foreign policy and also provides the resources to help save many, many lives around the world.

Finally, let me thank Senator TED STEVENS for his leadership in this area. We would not be on the floor tonight with this matter worked out without TED STEVENS' work. Let me say, for

the Members of the Senate who do not already know this, this is not the first time that TED STEVENS has come forward and provided the necessary money to deal with the AIDS problem. This is, to my knowledge at least, the third time that I am personally aware of that Senator STEVENS has done so. TED STEVENS is someone who is compassionate and who cares. I salute him and thank him.

I thank my colleagues for bringing us to this point. It is significant that today in Columbus, OH, the President of the United States at noon today spoke very eloquently about this problem. He has taken the lead in our efforts to deal with really one of the greatest tragedies of our era. He, once again, spoke about the problem of AIDS. More importantly, he spoke about our obligation and our duty. This is what he said in Ohio today:

We have duties in this world. When we see disease and starvation and hopeless poverty, America will not turn away. This great, mighty nation is leading the world in confronting a terrible disease on the continent of Africa. This nation is bringing the healing power of medicine to millions of men and women and children now suffering with AIDS. This great land is leading the world in this incredibly important work of human rescue.

I salute President George Bush for his vision and his leadership in this area.

I conclude by thanking everyone for their good work. This is the right thing to do. This will save lives. We will never know the people whose lives this amendment will save. We will not meet them. We will not see them. But we can rest assured, there will be many, many lives saved by what we do tonight.

I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I rise today to support the pending amendment by Senator DEWINE to add an additional \$289 million to our efforts to combat HIV/AIDS. I am pleased to be able to support this amendment because of the agreement reached to offset this critical spending need within the existing budget.

This funding could not come at a more crucial time, as the continent of Africa faces a most severe crisis. I agree with the President that "in the face of preventable death and suffering, we have a moral duty to act." The United States is beginning to do its part in the battle against HIV/AIDS. In this bill alone, we are providing nearly \$1.4 billion for the President's new HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria initiative, \$250 million of which is available for a contribution to the global fund. The bill also provides \$150 million for the President's International Mother and Child HIV Prevention Initiative and \$700 million for the Global AIDS Initiative. With this amendment, we will be committing over \$2.2 billion toward the global fight against AIDS.

Just 2 short years ago, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria was simply an idea that was endorsed by President Bush and U.N. Secretary General Annan. As we stand here today, it has become a reality. President Bush pledged the founding \$200 million for the global fund, and our pledge has since risen to \$1.6 billion out of the total of \$4.7 billion in pledges made to date worldwide. The United States has already provided \$623 million to the global fund, more than one-third of total contributions to date. While I am proud of our commitment, I am also disturbed by the lack of commitment from other nations. This is not just a U.S. issue, it is a global issue, and it requires a global response.

U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan told the Security Council that:

by overwhelming the continent's [Africa's] health and social services, by creating millions of orphans, and by decimating health workers and teachers, AIDS is causing social and economic crises which in turn threaten political stability . . . in already unstable societies, this cocktail of disasters is a sure recipe for more conflict. And conflict, in turn, provides fertile ground for further infections.

The world recognizes that this has become more than a disease facing the people of Africa, it has become a threat to national security and regional stability. This is a serious epidemic in Africa, capable of toppling foreign governments, touching off ethnic wars and undoing decades of work in developing free-market democracies abroad. In addition, as the U.S. becomes more and more involved in the fight against AIDS, it must also recognize that the methods of contraction need to be addressed on a broader level. Our leadership on AIDS needs to be matched by our efforts on education, gender discrimination, economic development, and conflict resolution.

These are all reasons why I have supported providing the countries of sub-Saharan Africa with the means to provide its people with education, prevention techniques, and health care. In May, I was proud to support passage of H.R. 1298, the United States Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Act of 2003.

This comprehensive program has the potential over the next decade to provide life-extending drugs to at least 2 million infected people, give human care to 10 million HIV sufferers and AIDS orphans, and prevent 7 million new HIV infections. The overwhelming bipartisan support for that legislation demonstrates the priority of this need, and with this amendment we take an important step toward meeting the U.S. commitment under that bill. The millions of people in sub-Saharan Africa and around the globe affected by AIDS deserve no less.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate? If not, the question is on agreeing to amendment No. 1966.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I announce that the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT), and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY) are necessarily absent.

Mr. REID. I announce that the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. EDWARDS), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. HOLLINGS), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) are necessarily absent.

I also announce that the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON), is attending a family funeral.

I further announce that if present and voting, the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) would vote "yea."

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. MURKOWSKI). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 89, nays 1, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 429 Leg.]

YEAS—89

Akaka	Dayton	Lugar
Alexander	DeWine	McCain
Allard	Dodd	McConnell
Allen	Dole	Mikulski
Baucus	Dorgan	Miller
Bayh	Durbin	Murkowski
Bennett	Ensign	Murray
Biden	Enzi	Nelson (FL)
Bingaman	Feingold	Nickles
Bond	Feinstein	Pryor
Boxer	Fitzgerald	Reed
Breaux	Frist	Reid
Brownback	Graham (FL)	Roberts
Bunning	Graham (SC)	Rockefeller
Burns	Grassley	Santorum
Byrd	Gregg	Sarbanes
Campbell	Hagel	Schumer
Cantwell	Harkin	Sessions
Chafee	Hatch	Smith
Chambliss	Inhofe	Snowe
Clinton	Inouye	Specter
Cochran	Johnson	Stabenow
Coleman	Kennedy	Stevens
Collins	Kohl	Sununu
Conrad	Kyl	Talent
Cornyn	Landrieu	Thomas
Corzine	Lautenberg	Voinovich
Craig	Leahy	Warner
Crapo	Levin	Wyden
Daschle	Lincoln	

NAYS—1

Hutchison

NOT VOTING—10

Carper	Jeffords	Nelson (NE)
Domenici	Kerry	Shelby
Edwards	Lieberman	
Hollings	Lott	

The amendment (No. 1966) was agreed to.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. REID. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 2047

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I send an amendment to the desk and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Illinois [Mr. DURBIN], for himself, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. CORZINE, Mr.

BINGAMAN, and Ms. STABENOW, proposes an amendment numbered 2047.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To increase assistance to combat HIV/AIDS)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. For an additional amount for the Global AIDS Initiative, \$589,700,000, to remain available until September 30, 2006, for programs for the prevention, treatment, and control of, and research on, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, which may include additional contributions to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, first, I commend Senator DEWINE of Ohio. He is an extraordinary person and an extraordinary colleague. It has been my good fortune to work with him on an amendment relative to this issue of global AIDS. Senator DEWINE, by my rough calculation between us, I think we may have added up to \$400 million to the fight on global AIDS just with the passage of the last amendment and the two previous efforts, and I commend him. He has worked ceaselessly to get this done, and he has done so well. I was happy to add my name to his effort. He did all the work. He deserves all the credit.

I ask my colleagues now to consider this amendment. For every dollar the last amendment will use to save a life in the war against AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis, this amendment will provide \$2. For every life that can be saved with Senator DEWINE's amendment, this amendment, if passed, will add two more lives that will be saved.

I will tell my colleagues what we do. What we take is the President's promise of \$15 billion over 5 years, which comes out obviously to \$3 billion per year, and make that our goal in terms of this appropriations bill.

That means adding, to the amount that we just passed, some \$589 million. That will bring us to the \$3 billion figure that was promised by the President, that was endorsed by the Senate, and, frankly, we will keep our word and our promise to the world. More important, this money is needed, and it is needed desperately right now.

Some have argued that there are a lot of sick people in this world but they can't absorb all this money, these hundreds of millions of dollars that have been sent their way. I urge those who make that statement to consider the following.

CARE is one of the finest charities in the world. My family supports it and many of us do as individuals. Peter Bell, who is the head of CARE, sent a letter to President Bush just a few weeks ago. This is what he said about the need for full funding to \$3 billion:

There are hundreds of organizations, secular and faith-based, ready to expand their response to the HIV/AIDS pandemic. CARE, for example, has spent 15 years fighting HIV/

AIDS, working with host governments, international organizations, and local partners. We currently support HIV/AIDS projects in 37 countries around the world with a total annual budget of almost \$15 million. If funding were made available, we would double or triple the size of our HIV/AIDS programming. I believe the same is true for many other AIDS organizations.

That is what Peter Bell wrote to President Bush from the CARE organization just a few weeks ago.

Some of you are familiar with the organization World Vision. You can't watch one of their programs without having your heart torn to shreds. These wonderful people involved in World Vision around the world are working day and night with the most poor people on Earth. Richard Sterns sent a letter to President Bush just a few weeks ago. This is what he said:

Let me assure you, Mr. President, we have the capacity to make a difference now and build for the future. The absorptive capacity is made up of a number of different players, national and local governments, community based organizations, a strong and widespread faith community, and international NGOs.

He then closed by saying this:

It is my opinion that within these various delivery systems, \$3 billion in aid can be effectively delivered to those who desperately need it now.

Richard Sterns, president of World Vision.

This Senate has considered this issue. In July, 78 Members of this body—78 of us—voted in a sense-of-the-Senate resolution for full funding up to the authorized level of \$3 billion for AIDS. We said in that sense-of-the-Senate resolution we would stand by that number, even if it meant exceeding the levels authorized in the budget.

I can go through my entire statement, but the hour is late. I will not do that to you because I think you all understand it. Let me just say, if there is an argument that the money I am asking for is outside of the appropriations bill, let me remind you, the amendment we just passed was outside of the appropriations bill as well.

If there is an argument that we really don't owe \$3 billion, let me tell you, the world thought our pledge was \$3 billion. These heads of charitable organizations around the world are telling us that is what they understood the American commitment to be, and we are almost \$600 million short this year.

Let me also add, if the argument is to be made that this money cannot be spent, the experts in the field, the men and women who risk their lives every day in the poorest places on Earth, have told us over and over again they need the money and they need it now.

I close with a reference to something I have been thinking about for some time. There was a movie which most of us have seen called "Schindler's List." You will never forget that movie as long as you live. And you remember that this man in Nazi Germany did everything he could think of—trickery, smooth talking, and guile—to save the lives of Jewish people destined for concentration camps. His success was so

great that at the end of the movie, they showed in that factory the hundreds, maybe thousands, of people whose lives had been saved.

As he was about to leave them when the war was over, there was that final scene which none of us can forget. They turned to Schindler to give him a ring, a gold ring made out of the fillings of their teeth, in appreciation for what he had done to save so many lives. He broke down in tears, and he said in that movie:

I should have done more. I should have done more.

That is where we are tonight. The DeWine amendment has moved us positively toward almost \$300 million in this fight against global AIDS. But we should do more, and we can do more.

My colleagues, please, stand together tonight with our promise from our President on this global AIDS epidemic, a bipartisan promise that brings out the best in America. Let us leave with this bill saying: We kept our word. We stand behind you and we are prepared to lead the world. Let us provide the money and never have to say at some future time: We should have done more.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Let me say for the information of all Senators, the Senator from Nevada and I have been working on how to finish up tonight. I am not going to ask consent yet, but the plan is as follows: To stack three votes, first a vote on or in relation to the Durbin amendment, then on or in relation to the Bingaman amendment, then on or in relation to the Feinstein amendment. After that, we expect to be able to handle everything else by voice vote, including final passage.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that that be the case, there be no limitations as to time on that but there be no—no limitations as to time.

I would ask if my friend would modify his request. I have spoken to Senator FEINSTEIN, Senator DURBIN, and Senator BINGAMAN. If we could have it in inverse order, Senator FEINSTEIN first, then Senator DURBIN, and then Senator BINGAMAN?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont?

Mr. REID. Would that be OK with the Senator?

Mr. MCCONNELL. I say to my friend that seems fine.

Mr. LEAHY. Reserving the right to object—and I shall not object—there was a discussion you may recall. I also suggested that when we do that, the penultimate vote and the final vote be 10 minutes.

Mr. REID. That is very reasonable. I so modify my request. I hope the manager does on the other side.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Pennsylvania.

Mr. SANTORUM. Madam President, I also congratulate the Senator from

Ohio as well as the majority leader for the tremendous work they have done on this issue in crafting a compromise that will keep within the budget. This DeWine amendment did keep within the budget and meeting the need that is out there in Africa and the Caribbean to address the greatest health crisis that maybe the world has seen.

I respect the Senator from Illinois. I share his passion for trying to do more. But I think we need to look at what, No. 1, our commitment was and, No. 2, what is the best and most prudent way of going about building the capacity, meeting the needs in a responsible way to all involved.

Let me talk first about what our commitment is. The commitment by the President, when he announced his plan—this was before the bill passed the House and Senate and was signed by the President—was to spend \$15 billion over the next 5 years and ramp up as capacity would ramp up within those 12 countries in Africa and the 2 in the Caribbean. As capacity would ramp up, we would ramp up funding.

That makes sense for those who have traveled to Africa. I had the opportunity to meet with Ambassador Tobias today, who is in charge of the AIDS effort in Africa. I also had a chance to meet with Richard Feachem, who is in charge of the Global Fund, this afternoon.

I can tell you that while, yes, there are lots of organizations out there, to suggest there is the capacity at this point to take on the amount of money that is being contemplated here I think overstates the case, at least according to the experts, the people who are in charge of distributing this money. In fact, the administration makes a very strong argument that the money that was added to the DeWine amendment may not be able to be spent within the fiscal year. But we believe if there is a potential that that could happen, we would rather put a little bit more money there, just in case they do find that there can be some sort of expansion beyond what they, at this point in time, believe is possible.

We provided that cushion for the administration, and \$300 million is not a small cushion. It is a fairly substantial increase in the amount of bilateral aid that is going to be provided by the United States—about a 15-percent increase.

I suggest that we provide that cushion which allows for the expectations of the administration to be on the low side, and be able to grow, if necessary. Obviously, we don't want them to spend money if it is not going to be spent efficiently; it will not really help. We want them to be good stewards of the funds and be able to spend that money to provide treatment, provide prevention, and provide it for taking care of both the old and dying and those who are near death and those who are young.

I suggest that the DeWine amendment accomplishes everything the Sen-

ator from Illinois wants to accomplish. The reason, by the way, it accomplishes what the authorization says is because there is now \$2 billion for bilateral aid in the appropriations process this year. That is what the authorization says—\$2 billion in bilateral aid, and up to \$1 billion in matching from the Global Fund.

Let us look at the Global Fund. I just met the Director of the Global Fund. The contribution pledged for next year, as of this moment, is \$100 million which was announced yesterday. So it is up to about \$770 million. In the appropriations bill that we are going to pass, it is \$400 million. Actually, it slightly exceeds the pledge that is in the authorization. For every two dollars of international aid there would be one dollar of U.S. aid. If you take roughly \$800 million, it is actually less because \$400 million meets the pledge that we said we would provide in the authorization.

To make the suggestion that we haven't in principle met it is just not right.

That is how we came up with the number that was in Senator DEWINE's amendment that was cosponsored by Senator DURBIN. We have met our obligations to the Global Fund. We have met our obligations in the authorization to provide \$2 billion in bilateral aid even though the administration doesn't believe we can spend \$2 billion efficiently and effectively.

I think we have pushed the envelope. The administration only pledged \$200 million to the Global Fund. We have \$400 million. We doubled the commitment that the administration said they would provide. We doubled it because we wanted to meet expectations. We have done so.

I suggest that we have met our obligation for bilateral aid. We have met our obligation for the Global Fund.

If, in fact, later when we get into 2004 and the Global Fund ends up raising more money—we have fiscal year 2005, which starts in calendar year 2004—at the end of 2004, and we did provide some more money to increase the match at the end of next year, a lot of money comes in from the other countries on a calendar basis. So we have an opportunity if we need to come up with more money to meet our match in the 2004 calendar year.

But there is no need to further bust the budget or try to bust the budget on something where we have made our commitment in the authorization and exceeded the commitment that the President made when he announced the \$15 billion over 5 years. The President is wise. We would be wise if we are going to make the \$15 billion commitment. I don't think anyone in this Chamber would argue that \$1 spent in 2004 after 4 years of building up capacity, efficiency, and effectiveness is going to be more efficiently and effectively spent than putting more money in year 1. I don't think one can make that argument. We may be able to

build capacity quickly and less efficiently and costly, but that money would be used more wisely and efficiently in later years where we can put more money in the hands of people who get those needed drugs and needed care in a much more efficient and broadly based way.

I think we have struck the compromise. I hope the Members of this Chamber will know that in good faith. I appreciate what the Senator from Illinois is doing. I have great sympathy for his cause, but I think we have struck the balance here and I hope this Chamber will vote accordingly.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Ms. STABENOW. Madam President, I rise in strong support of the Durbin amendment.

First, I thank my colleagues and friend from Illinois for his passion and his eloquence and his persistence over and over on the floor, speaking up for those around the world who have no voice in this Chamber and who desperately need our help.

I also congratulate Senator DEWINE for his leadership in getting us up to this point.

We are talking about 8,500 people being killed by disease every day—8,500 people today, 8,500 people tomorrow, 8,500 people the next day, and 6,500 in Africa alone. We are seeing HIV/AIDS produce 14,000 new infections every day, and 9,500 which occur in Africa.

If that doesn't tell us there is a sense of urgency to do all that we can do, I don't know what does. When we look at the facts of the more than 30 million people in Africa alone with HIV, only 50,000 have the medicine they need—we hear over and over again from the organizations in Africa that they have the capacity; they just need the resources; they just need our help.

There is no question when you look at the number. Less than 1 in 20 pregnant women have access to services to prevent mother-to-child transmission. The numbers are going on and on.

I urge colleagues to step up and support the promise that we made a few months ago—the promise that we made of \$3 billion a year over 5 years, a total of \$15 billion, and join together to send a message that we understand the sense of urgency from the people around the world who are so desperate for our help.

I remember just a couple of weeks ago on the Senate floor when we were talking about the Iraqi supplemental and reconstruction, I spoke about delaying a portion of the reconstruction dollars because it was clear from all of the evidence and studies that only \$6 billion to \$8 billion could be spent the first year. We wanted to divert some of those dollars in another direction for things here at home. We were told on the Senate floor that we needed to keep our full commitment, whether or not the capacity was there, and that we needed to immediately let them know what they had to work with so they

could move as quickly as possible. I suggest this is no less; I believe the capacity is there now.

The reality is we need to let the people around the world, and the people of Africa and Americans who are working there desperately trying to make a difference and save lives, know that we in Congress will keep our commitment on behalf of the people of our country.

We are talking about a relatively small amount of dollars for saving literally thousands and thousands of lives.

As the Senator from Illinois said, we have a responsibility to do what we can do. We don't want to be in a position of looking back when the picture is clear about what has been going on and say where were we when we had the chance to save as many lives as possible.

The Durbin amendment needs to be passed, and it needs to be passed now.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

Mr. COLEMAN. Madam President, I first want to thank my colleague, the Senator from Ohio, for the incredible work he has done. He has been tireless and steadfast on this issue. I was proud to be a cosponsor of his amendment.

I thank my colleague, the Senator from Illinois, for his passion on this issue. I have the greatest respect for what he is trying to accomplish.

Today, I had an opportunity to meet with Ambassador Tobias. We talked about this issue of capacity. He said he was in a warehouse—either in Botswana or South Africa—but he was in a warehouse. The warehouse was full of antiretroviral drugs. They were close to their expiration date. These drugs had been donated by a company. The drugs were there but they didn't have the capacity to get them all out. Those drugs were in danger of being wasted.

We were in South Africa this summer. I was with Leader FRIST and others and dealing with the issue of AIDS. There are 5 million people in South Africa who are HIV positive. There are approximately 20,000 receiving antiretroviral treatment.

We visited Anglo Gold, one of the largest gold mines in the world. They made a commitment to each and every employee to cover the full cost of treatment. Money is not the issue. They believe they have perhaps 30,000 employees HIV positive. They were hoping to get in the first year 10 percent, 3,000 to come in for treatment. They have a third of that and less to date. They said to us: The money is not the issue; we do not have the capacity to do it right. You have to do it right.

I will fight very hard to keep our commitment of \$15 billion over 5 years. As my colleague from Pennsylvania said, we have met our commitment that is in the authorization of \$2 billion by the DeWine amendment. We have met our commitment to the global fund. We are meeting our commitment. We are doing it the right way. We are going to have to ramp up. The needs are great.

In my own experience, having visited Africa, the capacity is not there. You simply cannot throw money at a problem. We have to do the right thing. We are doing the right thing by the commitments we have made by supporting the DeWine amendment. I oppose the Durbin amendment.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. TALENT). The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, it is interesting, before I came to the Senate, I recall seeing headlines saying the Congress passed an authorization to do this or an authorization to do that; \$100 million to improve the environment somewhere, authorized \$1 billion to do this. It was not until I got here that I realized that does not do anything. We could authorize \$5 trillion for polio vaccine tonight, but if we did not appropriate some money, it is nothing.

In "Henry IV," Part I—if the Senator from West Virginia were here, he could set me—Part I, Act 3, Scene 1, we all remember that scene very well.

Glyndower says to Hotspur: I can call spirits from the vasty deep.

Hotspur answers: Why, so can I, so can any man; But will they come when you call for them?

We have authorized the money and the President and everybody else had wonderful speeches. I commended him, praising him. He met with all the various religious leaders and everyone else and went to Africa and talked about what we have promised. That was the authorization.

Now it is time to call for the money from the vasty deep. We can find \$87 billion we had to send immediately to Iraq with absolutely no indication of whether the capacity was there to spend it when questions were asked. They were never answered. Included were items such as \$6,000 telephones that could be bought for \$600 in neighboring countries, and so on. But we just told them, we will build the capacity.

What the Durbin amendment, combined with the DeWine amendment—and I was a cosponsor of the DeWine amendment as I am of the Durbin amendment—if you put them together, then we do fulfill the commitment that the President of the United States very rightly said this country would do.

I have traveled to Africa. I have traveled to Haiti, Vietnam, China, and elsewhere. I have seen how AIDS is spreading. Other Senators on both sides of the aisle have seen the same. When you see that these additional funds can be effectively used, we have to ramp up. In all my travels, all my conversations with foreign leaders and public health experts, I have never met anyone who believes the money provided by this amendment could not be well spent today, not a year from now.

I have seen some of the vaccines that some companies donate, just about at their expiration date. Then they take a full tax writeoff even though it will not be used.

Everyone who is working in the field to stop AIDS believes we need the additional funds today.

That is why I praised the President when he promised them. That is why I will support the senior Senator from Illinois tonight to help in carrying out the promise that President Bush made.

You cannot argue \$3 billion is too much to spend effectively in combating AIDS in 14 countries. That is not what the United States Leadership Against Aids Act says. Besides, why limit our efforts to 14 countries when five times that many countries are being ravaged by AIDS? Why ignore the other two dozen countries in Africa? Why ignore Russia or China or India where AIDS is spreading out of control? India is going to swamp virtually everywhere else with an AIDS crisis the way it is spreading. China, Russia, we have strategic interests there.

It is a false argument to say we cannot do this. Frankly, when you are the wealthiest nation on Earth, the most powerful nation on Earth, I believe it is an immoral argument. It is not just a fact that we in the United States are threatened by the spread of AIDS in other countries. We actually have a chance to do something about it. We have a chance to do something about it in countries where the yearly income is less than some of us have spent on an evening out with dinner, a show with our spouses; actually, where a yearly income is less than we spend on the time it takes for us to have this debate in most places.

It is in the 14 countries. If we could isolate AIDS to 14 countries, we should sing "Glory, Hallelujah." We cannot. There are dozens of countries that need help, that need to have people trained. We should provide the equipment to support a national prevention and treatment program. Ask anyone who is working those countries. They will tell you.

To argue that we do not have the capacity is not based on fact. It is not based on reality. It is not based on public health. I worry that argument is made because they do not want to spend the money. We are spending an awful lot more money to fight AIDS today than if we faced up to this problem two decades ago, but people did not want to. We wasted two decades. Twenty-five million people died in part because we and others failed to act. People died during that time. It is a population equal to 50 times my own State. Actually it is in population about 50 times the State of the distinguished Presiding Officer.

I commend the Senator from Illinois. I wish the White House would not oppose this amendment. What the Senator from Illinois is trying to do is to call them from the deep, call up the money to back up what the President has promised. The President has been rightly praised by religious leaders, by heads of state, by well-known entertainers such as my good friend Bono, from Ireland, for promising this

money. So the White House should not stop us now that they have had the praise, now that everyone has stood up and said the President was right. Now we should not have the White House coming in through the backdoor and saying, don't vote for the money. We want to make the promise. We do not want to spend the money.

I hope everyone will stop and think. We could spend this money. The President was right to promise it. We are right to back the President's promise.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I do not know if there are any other Members who wish to seek recognition on this amendment. If they do, I will wait to speak last.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I wish to clarify a point the Senator from Vermont made about the White House.

I think if the Senator from Vermont will go back and look at the White House's proposal, and how much money they said they would spend when they put the proposal forward—which I think the Senator from Vermont rightly said was praised by the international community—the Senator from Vermont will discover that the President's proposal had less than \$3 billion in the first year, actually roughly \$2 billion in the first year, and then over the course of the following 4 years it was ramped up to in excess of around \$4 billion.

So I think to suggest that the administration announced a plan with one hand and then somehow pulled back with the other is not accurately reflected by the record in this case.

The White House has been clear from the beginning as to what they have believed was the capacity for spending appropriately within the 14 countries they have outlined in the plan. They have stuck to that plan. They have insisted the numbers they put forth in the first place are accurate.

I share the Senator's concern that number may be low, and that is why I worked with Senator DEWINE and Senator FRIST to come up with some additional funds, some \$400 million, to see if we could do more bilateral aid as well as provide more money for the global fund. We have accomplished that.

But I just want to set the record straight. The administration has announced their policy, which was warmly received by the international community, a community that understands that the capacity now is not what it will be 5 years from now as a result of the efforts of this administration, and that the money then can and should be ramped over a period of time based on the efficient capacity to be able to distribute, for example, the antiretroviral drugs the Senator from Minnesota talked about today that are sitting in a warehouse with an expiration that is

nearing, with no ability to get those drugs out.

That is the current state in many areas in Africa. And to suggest that because the administration recognizes there is a failure of capacity of any areas in Africa is somehow coldhearted or, more importantly, that it has reneged on its promise does not accurately reflect what happened. It does not, in any way, in my opinion, accurately reflect the tremendous compassion and leadership which the administration and this President have shown on this issue.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I would like to close. Would the Senator from Vermont like to be recognized?

Mr. LEAHY. If I could.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I just took this from the quotes of what the President said on July 12 in Nigeria:

The people of Africa are fighting HIV/AIDS with courage. And I'm here to say, you will not be alone in your fight. In May, I signed a bill that authorizes \$15 billion for the global fight on AIDS. This week, a committee of the House of Representatives took an important step to fund the first year of the authorization bill. And the Senate is beginning to take up debate.

He then stated:

The House of Representatives and the United States Senate must fully fund this initiative, for the good of the people on this continent of Africa. . . .

So I went to what it was the President had signed, the authorization bill of which he spoke. He called upon us to fully fund it, but what it said in the authorization was \$3 billion for the first year.

I spoke with the President about this. I told him I thought we could use the money. It is what he in his speech in Africa called upon the Congress to do. He said he would sign this authorization bill, which authorized \$3 billion the first year, and he is calling upon us now to carry out our part. He has done his part. He wants us to carry out our part to fund it.

Well, we are trying to carry out our part. I also worked with the Senator from Ohio and the Senator from Illinois, as did Senator MCCONNELL, to find the extra money. It is more money. We have just voted for more money than what the White House said we needed when the bill first came up.

I am glad they are not resisting that extra money. I commend the White House for that. I commend Senator MCCONNELL, Senator DURBIN, and Senator DEWINE for working so hard to find it. But the fact is—the fact is—we have to build capacity. Capacity does not happen overnight. We can use the \$3 billion. There is no question, it can be used. Every health official in the world would tell you that. We can use the money. We ought to get it into the pipeline. We ought to spend it.

The President was right. I took the floor of the Senate and praised him

when he spoke of the need for this. I praised him publicly, and I praised him privately when I spoke with him about it.

So that is what it is we are trying to do.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, very briefly, and because I know we are about to hear closing comments on this amendment, I have two unanimous consent requests.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—CONFERENCE REPORT TO ACCOMPANY H.R. 2691

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that on Monday, November 3, at a time determined by the majority leader, after consultation with the Democratic leader, the Senate proceed to the consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2691, the Interior appropriations bill, provided that there be 60 minutes of debate equally divided between the chairman and ranking member of the subcommittee, and following the use or yielding back of the time, the Senate proceed to a vote on adoption of the conference report on Monday, at a time determined by the majority leader, after consultation with the Democratic leader.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—S. 150

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at a time determined by the majority leader, after consultation with the Democratic leader, the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. 150, the Internet Tax Moratorium, but not before November 6.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if the majority leader has finished, I ask unanimous consent that there be 2 minutes equally divided before each of the subsequent votes following the vote on the Feinstein amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I would further ask, just as a matter of inquiry—I know Senator DURBIN is about to wrap up the debate on his amendment. Senator FEINSTEIN told me she would speak no longer than 5 minutes. And people are calling.

Does the Senator from New Mexico have any idea how long he wishes to speak?

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, in response, I would be glad to speak for no more than 5 minutes.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, so everyone should be aware that these votes should start in the next 10 minutes or so.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, has the debate now been completed on the Durbin amendment?

Mr. REID. No. The Senator from Illinois wants to finish the debate, but he has just a few more minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I personally thank my colleagues. It is late. People would like to go home. I understand the weariness we all feel because it has been a long and hard week. But I hope you all understand this is not just another issue. For many of us—I think for all of us, frankly—this is an issue which is the challenge of our generation. It is the challenge of our time.

I was one of those Democrats who stood and applauded the President of the United States at his State of the Union Address. I thought he made a spectacular, historic commitment that the United States would lead the world in the fight against the global AIDS epidemic. He included tuberculosis and malaria.

Having visited some of the Third World countries that are victimized by these diseases, I stood and applauded in heartfelt support of the President, proud to be an American and proud of what he said: \$15 billion over 5 years. We came back in the Senate and we decided to authorize—a Republican majority and the Democratic minority—\$3 billion this year.

So this figure of \$3 billion is not my creation. It is the Senate's creation. And it is a number which we ratified in July when 78 Republican and Democrat Senators said: Yes, that is what we are going to spend this year, \$3 billion. Regardless of budget consequences, we will keep that commitment.

So this \$3 billion figure is not one I have come up with. It is one that the President came up with. It is one that the Senate came up with.

Now, a lot has been said about capacity. Let me explain what I think is a misunderstanding here. One of the Senators said: I saw a warehouse full of vaccine that was about to expire. That is proof positive we don't need to send any more money over there because, frankly, it will be wasted. I guess that is the conclusion.

Let me read to you what the President of the United States said when he announced the global AIDS coordinator just a few months ago:

We will set up a broad and efficient network to deliver drugs to the farthest reaches of Africa, even by motorcycle or bicycle. We will train doctors and nurses and other health care professionals so they can treat HIV/AIDS patients. Our efforts will ensure that clinics and laboratories will be built, renovated, and equipped. Child care workers will be hired and trained to care for AIDS orphans. People living with AIDS will get home-based care to ease their suffering.

This is what the President said. What we are doing with this money is not just sending medicine to warehouses. We are doing these things. The President has said we are using this money to build the capacity. Doesn't it defy logic for us to say if we need more nurses and health care professionals, it would be better to wait several years before we train them? We need them now so they can deliver the therapies and medicines necessary to save lives during the next 4, 5, and 10 years.

Shortchanging that capital investment, shortchanging that capacity investment on the front end is a guarantee these poor people will continue to die. Why would we stand by and let that occur?

The saddest thing about this amendment, the saddest thing of all is it is likely to be a partisan amendment. When you look at the rollcall, count the no votes. You are likely to see one political party, and the yes votes another political party. Of every issue in the world today which we will consider, this is the one that should not be partisan. This is the one where the President really summoned all of us to stand together in a bipartisan fashion.

I want to say one word in closing. Senator FRIST was here a moment ago. He has left the floor now. He is very busy; I understand. I have such personal admiration for Senator FRIST, though I disagree with him on a lot of political issues, but such personal admiration because this man is not only a political leader in America, he is a moral leader of the Senate. He takes his skills as a doctor to Africa, to the poorest places on earth to help the poorest people. Of all the things that could be said of BILL FRIST, no one can ever question his moral commitment to poor people. That is not only admirable and honorable, but it speaks so well of him and what we can be when all of us understand that when it comes to issues of life and death for the poorest people around the world.

Please, step aside from party label. Step aside from the moment and say: We are going to do what is necessary to save these lives so some future day we don't look back and shake our heads and say: We should have done more.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the only remaining time to be used on the Feinstein amendment be 5 minutes to be used by Senator BROWNBACK.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, Senator FEINSTEIN is entitled to 5 minutes.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I understand that. I am locking in the time on this side. I ask unanimous consent that the only time to be used on the Bingaman amendment be 3 minutes to be used by the senior Senator from Kentucky.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is referring to his side?

Mr. MCCONNELL. Right.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MCCONNELL. With regard to the pending Durbin amendment number 2047, it increases spending by \$589,700,000. This additional spending would cause the underlying bill to exceed the subcommittee's 302(b) allocation. Therefore, I raise a point of order against the amendment pursuant to section 302(f) of the Budget Act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, pursuant to section 904 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, I move to waive the applicable sections of that act for purposes of the pending amendment, and I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays are ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 1977

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I believe I have 5 minutes on my amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I call up amendment No. 1977.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The amendment is pending.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. I thank the Chair.

I ask unanimous consent to add as cosponsors, in addition to Senators SNOWE and MURRAY, Senators CLINTON, JEFFORDS, and DURBIN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, looking at the scope of the HIV/AIDS tragedy, 40 million people are infected with HIV worldwide and 30 million of these people are from sub-Saharan Africa, approximately 70 percent of the world's total. As of 2001, 21.5 million Africans had died of AIDS, and at least 50 million new cases are projected by 2010 in five countries alone: China, Ethiopia, India, Nigeria, and Russia.

It is estimated that two-thirds of the 45 million new HIV infections expected to occur during this period could be averted with effective prevention. That is where we must go. This amendment does not aim to change the one-third earmark for abstinence until marriage. This amendment aims to provide some flexibility so that the people on the ground have the opportunity of tailoring the most effective prevention program.

The way in which we do it is, first, we reserve at least one-third of funds for the prevention of the sexual transmission of HIV, rather than one-third of all prevention funds, for abstinence-until-marriage programs.

Secondly, our amendment defines an abstinence-until-marriage program as any program that places a priority emphasis on the public health benefits of refraining from sexual activity outside of marriage.

Our amendment gives the administration, local communities, and HIV/AIDS workers on the ground maximum flexibility to design HIV/AIDS prevention strategies that are most effective in stopping the spread of AIDS.

One of the things we know, for example, is that Nevirapine, given to a pregnant woman, can stop the spread of HIV to her unborn child. In removing the one-third earmark from that program, you are able to use prevention dollars in a much wiser way.

Let me be clear: Our amendment does not strike the one-third earmark for abstinence until marriage programs. Rather, it ensures the United States can fund programs that are most successful in increasing abstinence among young people.

We believe this is a pro-abstinence, results-oriented amendment. It balances congressional priorities with public health needs. I urge my colleagues to support it.

I reserve the remainder of my time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who seeks recognition?

The Senator from Kansas.

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I would like to speak in opposition to the Feinstein amendment. I have deep respect for Senator FEINSTEIN. I have worked with her on a number of issues. I respect her thinking process, her compassion, and her view. However, on this issue, I have to differ with her, and I wanted to articulate several reasons why.

No. 1, we have voted on this issue already. This issue came up earlier when we had the debate on the major initiative put forward by the administration on HIV/AIDS. This was a major issue of debate at that point in time when we were trying to get the authorizing piece of this bill through. This is the appropriations piece. But when we were trying to get the authorizing piece of the bill through, we had a major debate about this.

We had a number of people here at that time talking with us about the role of abstinence. The leading country that has been successful in the major area where we are targeting our efforts in the HIV/AIDS pandemic has been Uganda. The Ugandan model is ABC, and it leads with abstinence. The day of the vote on this, we had the First Lady of Uganda here speaking with a number of us, talking about the central role of abstinence and the historic drop in the level of HIV/AIDS that had taken place in their country.

These are very impressive numbers, best of any country around the world that has had the high infection rates. Their infection rate dropped from 21 percent to 7 percent in just 9 years. She was saying specifically it was the abstinence portion. It was the abstinence focus.

If you want to stop the spread of AIDS, the best way to do it is abstinence. She was here and speaking to us with great clarity about that issue.

We had the debate, and we voted at that point in time with a majority saying we want a certain amount of money to go for the abstinence program.

I have great respect for the Senator from California. The Feinstein amendment would take money away from the abstinence focus in this program. In effect, she would open it up to more areas and dilute the abstinence base funding so that it will be reduced. In effect, we will be changing the course we set in the authorizing language:

that we want a certain amount of money, about a third of this pool, to go to abstinence, and we would be changing course and reducing that level from the authorizing language.

The administration and the Ambassador for Global AIDS Coordination, Ambassador Tobias, has written to the Senate Foreign Operations chairman, Senator MCCONNELL, in strong opposition to this amendment. He says in his final paragraph:

Finally, the effect of this amendment would be to decrease the amount that could be spent on abstinence-until-marriage programs as a prevention model, and I believe that would not be in the interest of best public health practice.

This is the person implementing this legislation, the amount of funding we are putting forward. He thinks the money targeted by the authorizing committee is appropriate and best suited for us to meet the objectives.

Mr. President, my objective is to reduce AIDS infections around the world, and the best model is Uganda. It has gone from 21 percent to 7 percent and the lead program they did it with was abstinence. We have a proven model. We voted on this previously. I urge my colleagues, with all due respect to the Senator from the State of California, not to change minds on this issue but, rather, to stay with what we already discussed and decided on and stay with the funding levels we currently have.

I reserve the remainder of my time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator reserves the remainder of his time.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, how much of my time do I have remaining?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator has 1 minute 45 seconds remaining.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, with respect to Uganda, I would like to read testimony from a Ugandan HIV/AIDS director before the House regarding the promotion of prevention by the President of Uganda. Let me quote this:

For some, he promoted a message of delaying sexual debut. For others, he urged them to be faithful to one partner and to use a condom. It was his three-part message that was effective in Uganda. In my personal experience, I believe this three-part message is critical.

Currently, one-third of all prevention funds must be reserved for abstinence until marriage programs. This earmark limits the amount of funds available for other prevention programs, including preventing mother to child transmission. There are literally 5 million to 10 million orphans already from AIDS in Africa, and it is going to be much more.

All we are saying, is that the one-third earmark should not apply to programs that give a pregnant woman a 90 percent chance of preventing the transmission of AIDS to the unborn child. That is all we are doing in this amendment, providing some flexibility.

Remember this overwhelming statistic. The estimates are there will be

in excess of 20 million orphans by 2010 in Africa. There should be flexibility. Our amendment allows the people on the ground to design a HIV/AIDS prevention program that is most effective at stopping the spread of HIV/AIDS.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, how much time do I have remaining?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator has 1 minute remaining.

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, responding to the good Senator from California, I note the abstinence funding is only 33 percent of the bill. The remaining two-thirds of the money can be used in other models other than the abstinence model. There are other funds in the bill that can't be used for other types of treatment, but we set aside a certain portion for the abstinence model because it has proven to be so effective.

The other point the Senator from California mentions is flexibility. Ambassador Tobias, who runs the global AIDS program, is opposed to this amendment because it restricts his flexibility. I quote from the letter he sent to the appropriations chairman:

Given the various cultures, traditions, and religions that are reflected in the global HIV/AIDS epidemic, it is essential that we be enabled to work with multiple prevention approaches and partners to affect behavior change. Restricting such flexibility, as this Amendment intends, would undermine our ability. . . .

I urge a vote against the Feinstein amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I wish to take just 30 seconds to speak in support of Senator FEINSTEIN's amendment.

The issue here is not about whether we support abstinence as a method of preventing the transmission of HIV. Obviously, it is one approach, and an important one especially in countries where young girls are extremely vulnerable. Encouraging young people to postpone sexual activity until they are in a monogamous relationship is a key goal of any AIDS prevention strategy. So abstinence is one approach that we need to support along with other prevention strategies.

But the Leadership Against AIDS Act says that 33 percent of all AIDS prevention funds should be spent on abstinence programs. The question, which is not answered in that act, is how to define abstinence, because if it is defined too broadly, it will eat into funds that are crucially needed for other prevention methods, such as HIV testing, and educational and information programs about methods to prevent HIV transmission among people who are sexually active.

This amendment strikes the right balance, and I commend the Senator from California for taking on this difficult but very important issue.

I ask for the yeas and nays on the Feinstein amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The yeas and nays have already been ordered on the amendment.

AMENDMENT NO. 2048

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. BINGAMAN. I call up amendment No. 2048.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the pending amendment is laid aside. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New Mexico [Mr. BINGAMAN], for himself and Mr. DASCHLE, proposes an amendment numbered 2048.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To make an additional \$200,000,000 available for the Global Aids Initiative and reduce the amount available for Millennium Challenge Assistance by \$200,000,000)

On page 22, line 7, strike "\$700,000,000" and insert "\$900,000,000".

On page 45, line 8, strike "\$1,000,000,000" and insert "\$800,000,000".

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, let me start by congratulating Senator DEWINE, Senator DURBIN, and all the others who worked so hard on the earlier amendment we adopted to add some funding. The case was extremely persuasive. By adding those dollars, we will be saving tens or perhaps hundreds of thousand of lives. I agreed with that and was very strongly in support of the amendment.

The purpose of this amendment is to make an additional \$200 million available for the global AIDS initiative and reduce the amount that is available for the Millennium Challenge Account by \$200 million. So this is a transfer of funds from one part of the appropriations bill to another.

Let me talk first about the Millennium Challenge Account, with which we are all familiar, to help developing countries. The administration, in their budget request, asked for \$800 million in new obligated funds for this Millennium Challenge Account. That was what the Secretary of State testified to in answer to a question from Senator BIDEN before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Senator BIDEN asked:

What is the estimate of obligations of \$800 million in fiscal year 2004 based on?

Secretary Powell's answer:

This is an estimate of the proportion of the \$1.3 billion budget request which we expect would actually be obligated in 2004 based on the careful selection system we have set up. Thus, we do not believe it likely that all MCA money appropriated in 2004 would be obligated in the fiscal year.

Let me put up one other chart. This chart depicts graphically that the President's budget request was \$1.3 billion in budget authority, but only \$800 million in funds to be obligated in 2004.

The House, in their appropriations process, took the President at his word

and said: OK, you want \$800 million for the Millennium Challenge Account; we will give you \$800 million.

We have gone an extra \$200 million, although the administration itself says this extra \$200 million they want for 2005 and later. They do not need it for 2004.

My amendment simply would use that money in 2004 for this AIDS problem about which we are all so concerned. The amendment is inside the budget. It is inside the appropriations caps that the subcommittee has been given.

In my view, this is a much better use of the money than just leaving \$200 million in an account somewhere for the next 12 months until we get to 2005. This would be money that would be made available. I do not agree with the notion that we can just postpone and do more good with this money later on. Later on, many of the people we would like to help will be dead. The reality is we need to get this money and assistance to them as quickly as possible and follow through on the promise we have made. So I urge my colleagues to support the amendment.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator reserves the remainder of his time.

The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, we are nearing the end of the debate. There will be three rollcall votes stacked very shortly. Senator LEAHY and I are unaware of any requests for any more rollcall votes. So I think it is safe to say that these three rollcall votes will be the last remaining rollcall votes for the night.

With regard to the Bingaman amendment, this amendment adds \$200 million of an existing budget of over \$2 billion to fight global AIDS. Just to put that in perspective, this amendment adds more than the entire fiscal year 1999 Clinton global AIDS funding level to this year's level on top of what we have already done. It adds \$200 million for HIV/AIDS with an offset, taking away from the Millennium Challenge Account, the President's new initiative. We are spending over \$2 billion already this year, as has been repeatedly stated tonight, to combat HIV/AIDS, including nearly \$200 million for the Global Fund.

The Millennium Challenge Account is a new initiative that enjoys broad bipartisan support. The MCA provides foreign assistance to developing countries that are doing things the right way, from ruling justly to building free market economies.

The Senate just approved the DeWine amendment 89 to 1. That increases HIV/AIDS spending by \$289 million. It is time to wrap it up on this bill, to not steal money from the Millennium Challenge Account. I urge opposition to the Bingaman amendment.

I am prepared to yield back the remainder of the time on this side and let the Senator from New Mexico wrap it up.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator yields the remainder of his time.

The Senator from New Mexico is recognized.

Mr. BINGAMAN. How much time remains, Mr. President?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator has 1 minute 20 seconds remaining.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, just to summarize the point, I am in favor of the Millennium Challenge Account. I am proposing that we go ahead and provide the full \$800 million that the administration asks to be obligated in 2004. That is exactly what the House of Representatives did. That is exactly what we ought to do.

My only point is that we should not be giving them \$200 million that they themselves—that is, the administration itself—say they cannot spend in 2004. They do not plan to spend it in 2004. That money should be made available to fight AIDS. We can do that. It does not bust the budget. It does not bust the limitations that we have on this spending bill. It is a better use of that money, and I urge my colleagues to support that amendment.

I yield back the remainder of my time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico yields back the remainder of his time.

The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. I have great respect for the Senator from Kentucky and the bill that he has put together. Whatever the outcome of the vote, I will strongly support this bill. It is a good bill. Senator MCCONNELL has worked in a bipartisan manner to accommodate a number of priorities. This is one disagreement. We have hundreds of issues that we have to resolve in this bill. I think our average is pretty good.

As Senator BINGAMAN pointed out, this is not a vote for or against the Millennium Challenge Account. The MCA could turn out to be a great program. This is a vote about priorities. This amendment is fully offset. The vote is on the following question: Do you want \$200 million sitting in the Treasury for a year? Or, do you want to spend if fighting HIV/AIDS?

The administration's own budget documents say that they will spend only \$800 million of this money this year. Anything above this level will not be obligated until Fiscal Year 2005. This is precisely why the Republican-controlled House provided \$800 million for the MCA. Secretary Powell made this point very clear when he testified before Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He was asked: "Why can you spend only \$800 million in Fiscal Year 2004?"

He replied—and I am quoting—this figure is "based on the careful selection system we will set up." Secretary Powell continues: This is an innovative approach with no precedent to guide us. We anticipate that it will take some time to develop the first proposals and then hone them into accept-

ably detailed and accountable contracts. We thus did not believe it likely that all MCA money will be obligated in the fiscal year. We would anticipate that any remaining funding would be obligated in fiscal year 2005 for programs in countries selected in fiscal year 2004.

I know that the White House will figure out a way to say they need this money. But, let me tell my colleagues a couple of other things I know. I know that this additional money will sit in Treasury—their own budget documents show this. Secretary Powell testified to this. I know we do one year appropriations around here. We will revisit this issue next year. I know there is not enough money in this bill to combat the worst public health crisis in 500 years.

The Bingaman amendment gets us more money, which is fully offset, to accomplish this important goal. I urge my colleagues to vote yes.

Also, I thank the staff members who have worked so hard on this bill. Senator MCCONNELL and I work in a bipartisan manner and so do the respective staffs. On the Republican side I thank Paul Grove, Brendon Wheeler, Robert Kareem. On the Democratic side, I thank Tim Rieser, Mark Lippert, and J.P. Dowd.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time has expired on the Bingaman amendment.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 1977

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is now on agreeing to amendment No. 1977 offered by the Senator from California on which the yeas and nays have been ordered.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I announce that the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT) are necessarily absent.

Mr. REID. I announce that the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. EDWARDS), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. HOLLINGS), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) are necessarily absent.

I also announce that the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON) is absent attending a family funeral.

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) would vote "yea."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 45, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 430 Leg.]

YEAS—45

Akaka	Breaux	Conrad
Baucus	Byrd	Corzine
Bayh	Cantwell	Daschle
Biden	Chafee	Dayton
Bingaman	Clinton	Dodd
Boxer	Collins	Dorgan

Durbin	Kohl	Pryor
Feingold	Landrieu	Reed
Feinstein	Lautenberg	Reid
Graham (FL)	Leahy	Rockefeller
Harkin	Levin	Sarbanes
Inouye	Lincoln	Schumer
Jeffords	Mikulski	Snowe
Johnson	Murray	Stabenow
Kennedy	Nelson (FL)	Wyden

NAYS—47

Alexander	Dole	Miller
Allard	Ensign	Murkowski
Allen	Enzi	Nickles
Bennett	Fitzgerald	Roberts
Bond	Frist	Santorum
Brownback	Graham (SC)	Sessions
Bunning	Grassley	Shelby
Burns	Gregg	Smith
Campbell	Hagel	Specter
Chambliss	Hatch	Stevens
Cochran	Hutchison	Sununu
Coleman	Inhofe	Talent
Cornyn	Kyl	Thomas
Craig	Lugar	Voinovich
Crapo	McCain	Warner
DeWine	McConnell	

NOT VOTING—8

Carper	Hollings	Lott
Domenici	Kerry	Nelson (NE)
Edwards	Lieberman	

The amendment (No. 1977) was rejected.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. BROWNBACK. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 2047

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There are now 2 minutes of debate equally divided on the motion to waive the Budget Act with respect to amendment No. 2047 by the Senator from Illinois.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, more than enough has already been said about this budget point of order. We have had this vote at least three different times this year. I hope the budget point of order will be sustained.

Mr. DURBIN. With this amendment, we raise the spending to fight the war on global AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria to the level that the Senate promised in its own authorization bill, a level that 78 of us voted for on a bipartisan basis.

We know this is the greatest moral challenge of our time. This is our chance to keep our promise to the world to make certain that America's compassionate leadership is meaningful to people around the world.

I ask my colleagues, please, look beyond the Budget Act. Look to the fact that we have a challenge here that is worthy of our vote at this time. I hope you will support this amendment.

I reserve the remainder of my time.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I yield the remaining time to the Senator from Pennsylvania.

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, the DeWine amendment accomplished everything that is absolutely necessary to fight global AIDS at this time. It is \$2 billion. The authorization stipulated fully funding the authorization of \$2 billion and \$400 million to match the \$800 million that had been pledged by the international community. As meeting with the authorization, \$1 of American for \$2 of international. The \$2.4

billion, which is in the bill, fully funds our AIDS commitment on the authorization and overfunds what the President requested by \$400 million.

Mr. DURBIN. My friends, the authorized level is \$3 billion. It is not \$2 billion. The \$2.4 billion we have reached with the Mike DeWine amendment still leaves us short \$589 million. That is the difference this amendment makes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time has expired. The question is on agreeing to the motion to waive the Budget Act with respect to amendment No. 2047 of the Senator from Illinois. The yeas and nays have been ordered. This is a 10-minute vote.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I announce that the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT) are necessarily absent.

Mr. REID. I announce that the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. EDWARDS), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) are necessarily absent.

I also announce that the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON) is absent attending a family funeral.

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) would vote "yea."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 42, nays 50, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 431 Leg.]

YEAS—42

Akaka	Dodd	Leahy
Baucus	Dorgan	Levin
Bayh	Durbin	Lincoln
Biden	Feingold	Mikulski
Bingaman	Feinstein	Murray
Boxer	Graham (FL)	Nelson (FL)
Breaux	Harkin	Pryor
Byrd	Inouye	Reed
Cantwell	Jeffords	Reid
Clinton	Johnson	Rockefeller
Collins	Kennedy	Sarbanes
Corzine	Kohl	Schumer
Daschle	Landrieu	Stabenow
Dayton	Lautenberg	Wyden

NAYS—50

Alexander	DeWine	Miller
Allard	Dole	Murkowski
Allen	Ensign	Nickles
Bennett	Enzi	Roberts
Bond	Fitzgerald	Santorum
Brownback	Frist	Sessions
Bunning	Graham (SC)	Shelby
Burns	Grassley	Smith
Campbell	Gregg	Snowe
Chafee	Hagel	Specter
Chambliss	Hatch	Stevens
Cochran	Hutchison	Sununu
Coleman	Inhofe	Talent
Conrad	Kyl	Thomas
Cornyn	Lugar	Voinovich
Craig	McCain	Warner
Crapo	McConnell	

NOT VOTING—8

Carper	Hollings	Lott
Domenici	Kerry	Nelson (NE)
Edwards	Lieberman	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 42, the nays are 50.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, the motion is rejected. The point of order is sustained, and the amendment falls.

Mr. FRIST. I move to reconsider the vote and I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, this will be the last rollcall vote tonight. Final passage will be on a voice vote. There will be no votes tomorrow. Earlier tonight, we had two unanimous consent agreements. We will say more about Monday's schedule a little bit later, but the plans are to have at least one rollcall vote Monday. It will be around 5:30 or so. That will be on the interior conference report.

AMENDMENT NO. 2048

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There is now a period for 2 minutes of debate equally divided on amendment No. 2048 offered by the Senator from New Mexico.

The Senator from Kentucky is recognized.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Very briefly, this amendment would take \$200 million out of the President's Millennium Challenge Account and add it to AIDS funding. We have already had a significant amount of debate about AIDS funding. I think we have made a decision on that.

This amendment, I hope, will be opposed.

I yield back the remainder of my time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator yields back the remainder of his time.

The Senator from New Mexico is recognized.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, first, I ask for the yeas and nays on the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, in the bill before us, we have \$200 million for the Millennium Challenge Account that the administration says they cannot spend in 2004. They do not plan to spend it. They did not request it.

The House gave the administration \$800 million for the Millennium Challenge Account. We are giving them \$1 billion.

My amendment would say let's give them the same amount the House is proposing to give them, the \$800 million, and let's take that extra \$200 million and use that in the fight against HIV/AIDS. It is a much better use of the funds than just putting it in an account for possible use in 2005.

I urge the adoption of the amendment.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I rise in strong support of the Bingaman amendment, which would transfer \$200 million dollars from the Millennium Challenge Account into programs designed to help us fight our struggle against the spread of HIV/AIDS.

I commend my friend and colleague from New Mexico for his leadership on this critical issue. Along with several of our colleagues, the Senator from New Mexico and I traveled to South Africa, Botswana, Kenya, and Nigeria to look at this heart-wrenching challenge. And I believe his amendment is an important step toward relieving the intense suffering we saw on that trip.

Let me say, too, that I support the Millennium Challenge Account. With the crushing poverty affecting nearly a third of the world's citizens, the MCA is clearly an idea whose time has come. I support it, and that is why I worked hard to ensure that this foreign operations bill contains the legislation to create that important program.

But the bill also includes \$200 million more than the President has requested and \$200 million more than his Secretary of State has said he can use this year. So rather than have that money sit unused—in the face of the gravest public health crisis the world has ever known—we propose to put that money to use immediately to confront HIV/AIDS.

Less than 4 months ago, the President signed into law a bill authorizing his administration to spend \$3 billion a year for the next 5 years on a comprehensive program to combat AIDS.

Congress passed this legislation in response to the President's call for action in his State of the Union Address. Unfortunately, President Bush's own budget request has fallen far short of his promises, seeking just under \$2 billion, more than \$1 billion less than what he is authorized to spend.

Nearly 30 million people in sub-Saharan Africa are currently living with the AIDS virus, and the President's emergency plan for AIDS will begin to help those countries that are worst hit.

But the reason we need to invest this additional \$200 million—on top of the \$289 million we just agreed to—is because the President's emergency plan focuses only on Africa and the Caribbean.

Take one country not addressed in the President's emergency plan. At the end of 2002, over 4.5 million Indians were infected with HIV, making India the nation with the second-highest population of AIDS patients in the world behind South Africa. Experts there warn that the disease has spread from high-risk populations in urban areas into rural India.

As a result, the infection rate will dramatically increase, in much the same pattern it followed in sub-Saharan Africa. A recent United States National Intelligence Council report predicted that India could have 25 million of its citizens infected with HIV/AIDS by the year 2010—less than 7 years from

now. Such an incidence of this disease would mean that India will have nearly as many people living with the AIDS virus as the entire sub-Saharan African region does today.

But our investments to fight HIV in India at the moment are less than \$40 million per year. By continuing that trend line, we are in effect requiring even more expensive investments within a decade.

I urge my colleagues to support the Bingham amendment, which follows the recommendation of President Bush regarding the amount of money needed for the Millennium Challenge Account, and devotes the additional resources to a problem that demands our immediate attention.

Mr. BINGAMAN. I yield back the remainder of my time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator yields back the remainder of his time.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The yeas and nays have already been ordered.

All time has now expired. The question is on agreeing to amendment No. 2048 offered by the Senator from New Mexico. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I announce that the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT) are necessarily absent.

Mr. REID. I announce that the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. EDWARDS), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. HOLLINGS), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) are necessarily absent.

I also announce that the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON) is absent attending a family funeral.

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) would vote "yea."

The result was announced—yeas 41, nays 51, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 432 Leg.]

YEAS—41

Akaka	Dorgan	Levin
Baucus	Durbin	Lincoln
Bayh	Feingold	Mikulski
Bingaman	Feinstein	Murray
Boxer	Graham (FL)	Nelson (FL)
Breaux	Harkin	Pryor
Byrd	Inouye	Reed
Cantwell	Jeffords	Reid
Clinton	Johnson	Rockefeller
Conrad	Kennedy	Sarbanes
Corzine	Kohl	Schumer
Daschle	Landrieu	Stabenow
Dayton	Lautenberg	Wyden
Dodd	Leahy	

NAYS—51

Alexander	Campbell	DeWine
Allard	Chafee	Dole
Allen	Chambliss	Ensign
Bennett	Cochran	Enzi
Biden	Coleman	Fitzgerald
Bond	Collins	Frist
Brownback	Cornyn	Graham (SC)
Bunning	Craig	Grassley
Burns	Crapo	Gregg

Hagel	Miller	Snowe
Hatch	Murkowski	Specter
Hutchison	Nickles	Stevens
Inhofe	Roberts	Sununu
Kyl	Santorum	Talent
Lugar	Sessions	Thomas
McCain	Shelby	Voinovich
McConnell	Smith	Warner

NOT VOTING—8

Carper	Hollings	Lott
Domenici	Kerry	Nelson (NE)
Edwards	Lieberman	

The amendment (No. 2048) was rejected.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. REID. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senator LEAHY be listed as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2047.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Kentucky.

AMENDMENT NO. 2049

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I have a technical amendment, which includes language by Senators ALLARD and FEINGOLD to strike amendments Nos. 1995 and 2004, previously adopted, and another technical amendment by Senator SANTORUM. I send the amendment to the desk and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] proposes an amendment numbered 2049.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

In Senate Amendment 1968, strike the following:

On page 18, line 10, after "Jordan" insert the following:
, which sum shall be disbursed within 30 days of enactment of this Act.

Strike amendments 1995 and 2004 to H.R. 2800, which were adopted by unanimous consent on October 28, 2003.

At the appropriate place in the bill, insert the following:

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRAINING ASSISTANCE FOR INDONESIA

SEC. . (f) Subject to subsection (b), none of the funds appropriated under the heading "INTERNATIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION AND TRAINING" shall be made available for Indonesia, except that such prohibition shall not apply to expanded military education and training.

(b) The President may waive the application of subsection (a) if the President determines that important national security interests of the United States justify such a waiver and the President submits notice of such a waiver and justification to the Committees on Appropriations in accordance with the regular notification procedures of such Committees.

(c) Respect of the Indonesian military for human rights and the normalization of the military relationship between the United States and Indonesia is in the interests of both countries. The normalization process cannot begin until the Federal Bureau of Investigation has received full cooperation from the Government of Indonesia and the Indonesian armed forces with respect to its investigation into the August 31, 2002, murders of two American citizens and one Indonesian citizen in Timika, Indonesia, and the individuals responsible for those murders have been prosecuted and appropriately punished.

SEC. . TECHNICAL CORRECTION RELATING TO THE ENHANCED HIPC INITIATIVE.

Section 1625(a)(1)(B)(ii) of the International Financial Institutions Act (as added by section 501 of the United States Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-25)) is amended by striking "subparagraph (A)" and inserting "clause (i)".

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendment is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 2049) was agreed to.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. REID. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 2023, AS MODIFIED

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a modification to amendment No. 2023, offered by Senator KENNEDY, to the desk.

I understand the amendment has already been agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendment is so modified.

The amendment (No. 2023), as modified, is as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. Beginning not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Coordinator should make publicly available (including through posting on Internet web sites maintained by the Coordinator) prices paid to purchase HIV/AIDS pharmaceuticals, antiviral therapies, diagnostic and monitoring tests, and other appropriate medicines, including medicines to treat opportunistic infections, for the treatment of people with HIV/AIDS and the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV/AIDS in developing countries—

(1) through the use of funds appropriated under this Act; and

(2) to the extent available, by—

(A) the World Health Organization; and

(B) the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria.

AMENDMENT NO. 2050

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send an amendment to the desk by Senator STEVENS and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL], for Mr. STEVENS, proposes an amendment numbered 2050.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To provide assistance for democracy programs in Russia)

On page 27, line 4 after the colon, insert the following:

Provided further, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, \$500,000 shall be made available to support democracy building programs in Russia through the Sakharov Archives:

Mr. MCCONNELL. I understand there is no opposition.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendment is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 2050) was agreed to.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. REID. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 1970

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I call up amendment No. 1970 on behalf of myself, Senator LEAHY, and Senator MCCAIN. The amendment is pending.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. That amendment has already been offered.

Mr. MCCONNELL. It is pending but not adopted. I urge its adoption.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendment is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 1970) was agreed to.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. REID. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

THE CLEAN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY EXPORTS INITIATIVE

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I have long had an interest in helping to open international energy technology markets and in expanding the export of a range of U.S. clean energy technologies. In October 2002, the Bush administration, at my urging, released a nine-agency plan called the Clean Energy Technology Exports, CETE, Initiative which is intended to carry out such an effort. The participating agencies whose budgets are covered in this bill include U.S. Agency for International Development, USAID, the Export-Import Bank, ExIm, Overseas Private Investment Corporation, OPIC, and the Trade and Development Agency, TDA.

To help coordinate and facilitate that work, funds have been included in the Fiscal Year 2004 Energy and Water bill to establish an interagency center to be located at the Department of Energy in order to increase U.S. efforts abroad and encourage greater public/private partnerships for such projects. It is also important that other agencies with responsibility for foreign assistance and export promotion participate in this initiative.

I hope that the managers of this bill will work with me in conference to include language in the Statement of

Managers to strongly urge USAID, ExIm, OPIC, and TDA to participate actively in the CETE Initiative. I want to be sure that these agencies contribute to the center's work, with funds in their existing budgets, to promote U.S. clean energy technologies in developing countries where the demand for energy is increasing dramatically.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I am aware of the interest of the ranking member of the Appropriations Committee, the senior Senator from West Virginia, in promoting the export of clean energy technologies, and appreciate knowing about his efforts to establish a center at the Department of Energy for this purpose.

Mr. LEAHY. I also appreciate what my friend Senator BYRD has said, and I will gladly work with him in conference in support of the language he seeks in the Statement of Managers.

GLOBAL TB DRUG FACILITY

Mrs. BOXER. I would like to thank the Senator from Vermont for his outstanding leadership on this bill and especially for his leadership on infectious disease issues. As my colleague well knows, tuberculosis is the greatest curable infectious killer on the planet. TB is also the number one killer of people with HIV/AIDS and the biggest killer of young women.

We must support the highest possible funding level for global TB programs, especially as we scale up AIDS efforts, and we must ensure that these monies have maximum impact—curing as many people of TB as possible. Ensuring access to drugs is a key component in curing TB.

Mr. LEAHY. I agree with my colleague. When countries do not have access to TB drugs, people die needlessly and when TB treatment is interrupted, this leads to the development of more deadly multi-drug resistant TB—which can cost hundreds of thousands of dollars to treat each infected person in the United States.

Mrs. BOXER. To address this issue, the Global TB Drug Facility, which is part of the Stop TB Partnership at the World Health Organization, is a remarkably successful international mechanism that is effectively providing access to high-quality anti-TB drugs in the world's poor nations. The Global TB Drug Facility procures drugs at low cost through a competitive bidding process, distributes drugs to qualified grantees, and works with Stop TB partners to ensure monitoring and evaluation.

In operation just 2 years, the Global TB Drug Facility has reduced the price of anti-TB drugs to just \$10 for a full six to eight month course of treatment, and has approved grants to over 40 countries.

The Global TB Drug Facility, GDF is so successful that the World Health Organization is using it as a model for providing anti-retroviral drugs and diagnostics in its campaign to reach 3 million people with anti-retrovirals by 2005.

Yet, despite its immense effectiveness, the GDF is facing a severe fund-

ing crisis. It does not have funding to meet existing commitments next year or to make any new grants for drug purchases. It needs \$50 million next year and a minimum of \$25 million just to meet existing commitments for 2004. If it does not get its minimum funding, at least 1.8 million TB patients will be put at serious risk and many will die, and we will be interrupting supplies of drugs—creating the perfect conditions to develop a dangerous drug resistant strain of the disease.

H.R. 1298, The United States Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Act of 2003, which was passed by the Senate and signed into law by the President, calls for “substantially increased funding for the Global Tuberculosis Drug Facility.”

The United States provided only \$2 million to the GDF in 2002 and just \$3 million in 2003. As a crucial part of our global TB effort, the United States should significantly increase our support for the Global TB Drug Facility in 2004. For example, \$15 million provided to the TB Drug Facility could provide TB drugs to treat over 1 million people.

INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I see the Senators from Virginia and Vermont on the floor, and am wondering if they could provide some additional information on their amendment concerning enforcement of intellectual property laws.

Mr. ALLEN. I thank the Senator from Kentucky. The Allen-Leahy amendment provides \$5 million under the “International Narcotics and Law Enforcement” account to improve enforcement of intellectual property laws to combat piracy in developing countries. This is a very important issue, as it relates directly to our economic viability as a nation.

Mr. LEAHY. I agree with the Senator from Virginia. The lack of enforcement of intellectual property laws is a serious problem. It undermines the rule of law in other nations, and it hurts U.S. economic and cultural interests. Perhaps most importantly, it reduces incentives for Americans to be creative. And, we know that American ingenuity is a major reason that the United States is the Nation it is today.

This amendment will help address some of these problems. It will also help developing nations comply with the WTO agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights, TRIPS, and other intellectual property agreements, which is very important.

Some of these nations have problems meeting the most basic needs of their people, and it is safe to say that this assistance could be the difference between the enforcement of these laws or piracy continuing unabated.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I thank my good friend from Vermont. I agree with what has been said on this by the Senators from Virginia and Vermont. I think this is a good idea, and would like to

ask, for clarification purposes, a question of the Senator from Virginia. How would this money be spent and what type of assistance would be provided by these funds?

Mr. ALLEN. This amendment allows the administration to be extremely flexible in finding an approach. It could involve training, equipment, or a range of other measures.

I do not want to micro-manage this process. I want to leave this in the hands of those in the administration with expertise on this issue. I would defer, in large measure, to State Department officials, especially those posted overseas who are dealing with the problem on a daily basis, to come up with a workable strategy.

However, I do believe that this is a problem that requires a coherent plan and a coordinated approach by the United States Government. And, I believe that the State Department, in close consultation with the United States Trade Representative, USTR, and the Department of Commerce, should formulate a detailed strategy for the use of these funds before they are obligated.

Other agencies, such as the Patent and Trademark Office, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, and the Library of Congress, have expertise on this issue. They can be extremely helpful in implementing these programs, especially with respect to training individuals from developing nations.

Mr. MCCONNELL. This sounds like a very reasonable approach.

Mr. LEAHY. I agree.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I want to thank my colleagues, especially Senator LEAHY, Senator MCCONNELL, and Senator DASCHLE, for supporting an amendment that was cleared. The amendment will help one of our closest neighbors—the country of Mexico.

We recently approved billions of dollars to begin rebuilding the nation of Iraq and to maintain order in Afghanistan. We approved this aid not only so the people of Iraq and Afghanistan can enjoy the benefits of a free and democratic society; we also approved it because we know it's in our interest to create a stable situation in those countries.

The same thing goes for our southern neighbor, with whom we share a 2,000 mile border, and where economic conditions are particularly bad right now.

Desperate people take desperate measures, and many people in Mexico are desperate. A few years ago, Mexico seemed on the verge of an economic breakthrough. But today, Mexico's growth rate is half what it was in the 1990s. More than half of all Mexicans—over 50 million people—have an annual income of less than about \$1,400. Almost one-fourth of all Mexicans have an annual income of about \$720—less than \$2 per day.

There is little hope for these people in the Mexican countryside, where coffee prices have plummeted and where

homes and land values are falling because of a badly broken system of private property ownership. So these desperate people take desperate measures. Maybe they flee to Mexico City—but there isn't much hope there either. Most refugees from the country side wind up in crowded shantytowns, breathing foul air, and living in filth. Maybe they remain on the land, but instead of raising coffee, many turn to illegal crop production, which facilitates a dangerous trade in drugs that poisons our own cities. Perhaps they will put their lives in the hands of unscrupulous “coyotes” who promise to lead them across the desert to the land of plenty. If they don't die trying, they reach the United States, where they place an added burden on our security officials and social services.

I do not condone illegal immigration. But I understand that desperate people do desperate things, and that desperate conditions in Mexico affect the United States.

This amendment extends a helping hand to our neighbor. It provides \$10 million for micro credit lending, small business and entrepreneurial development, aid to small farms and farmers, many who have been affected by the collapse of coffee prices, and it calls for programs to support Mexico's private property ownership system, which is in dire need for repair.

The money appropriated pursuant to this amendment won't solve these problems overnight, but we have to start somewhere. Our neighbor needs help, and we can't turn a blind eye.

This is not a handout. It is a commitment to free market-based programs that will spur long-term development and growth in the rural areas of Mexico. By extending a hand to our neighbor, we are also keeping our own Nation strong and secure. I again want to thank my colleagues for supporting this measure.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, we all understand and appreciate the importance of information technology. Many of us now regularly use our “blackberries” to communicate with each other and staff on the workings of this body. I want to take a moment to highlight the efforts and vision of Voice for Humanity to utilize information technology—specifically audio digital technology—to maximize the effectiveness of HIV/AIDS awareness and other important development issues abroad.

Using low-cost digital tools, Voice for Humanity proposes to convey HIV/AIDS awareness, prevention, treatment, and medical training among non-literate and oral communicating populations in developing countries. The devices, which fit into the palm of your hand, can provide standardized information to any one group or individual in any language. And the best part is, information can be regularly updated and changed using regular FM radio technology.

The applications of this technology are endless. During elections, this tech-

nology can provide critical information to remote parts of a developing country on the basic tenants of democracy and election rules and regulations. Anyone who has observed elections in a transitioning country knows that confusion over process on election day—by voters and poll workers—is not extraordinary. This technology ensures that everyone has the same information, in the same language, at the same time.

I will have more to say on Voice for Humanity at a later date. I intend to include language in the statement of managers accompanying the fiscal year 2004 Foreign Operations Appropriations bill ensuring support for pilot projects.

Lastly, Mr. President, last night the conferees to the emergency supplemental included \$100 million for economic assistance for Jordan. This action was strongly supported by the Foreign Operations Subcommittee, and is intended to be in addition to funds made available for Jordan in the fiscal year 2004 Foreign Operations bill.

My friend from Vermont and I wanted to provide Jordan with early disbursement of funds in the pending bill because we have long recognized how good and trusted an ally we have in that country. I was just in Amman—a little over 3 weeks ago—and was again impressed by the solid relationship the United States enjoys with the Hashemite Kingdom.

The inclusion of an additional \$100 million for Jordan sends the right message at the right time and provides well earned support for ongoing reforms in Jordan. The technical amendment the ranking member and I offer strikes an earlier one that provided funds for Jordan on an accelerated basis—instead, Jordan's total allocation for economic assistance in fiscal year 2004 will include the budget request for \$250 million, and an additional \$100 million in the supplemental.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, in conclusion, I thank Senator LEAHY and his very capable staff, Tim Rieser and Mark Lippert, and, of course, Chairman STEVENS and his able staff director, Jim Morhard, for his continued support of the subcommittee, and particularly for the additional global HIV/AIDS program allocation.

I also thank USAID counsel Bob Lester who puts in long hours working alongside the subcommittee putting these bills together. I thank Brendon Wheeler and my assistant, Robert Karem, who accompanied me on a recent trip to Iraq and Afghanistan, and Paul Grove, chief counsel of the subcommittee. He has been with me off and on for a number of years. He has done a spectacular job. He had to balance both the emergency supplemental conference downstairs and the foreign operations bill upstairs and chronic sleep deprivation at the same time, and he did all that with admirable poise and remarkable intellectual ability. I appreciate his very fine work.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further amendment to be proposed, the question is on the engrossment of the amendments and third reading of the bill.

The amendments were ordered to be engrossed and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill, as amended, pass?

The bill (H.R. 2800), as amended, was passed.

(The bill will be printed in a future edition of the RECORD.)

Mr. REID. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to the previous order, the Senate insists on its amendment and requests a conference with the House.

The Presiding Officer appointed Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. GREGG, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. BOND, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. INOUE, Mr. HARKIN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. JOHNSON, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. BYRD conferees on the part of the Senate.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask that there now be a period for morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

GOLDEN GAVEL AWARD

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, the Golden Gavel has long served the Senate to mark a Senator's 100th presiding hour and continues to represent our appreciation for the time these dedicated Senators contribute to presiding over the United States Senate, a very important duty. On the evening of Friday, October 17th, Senator JOHN SUNUNU reached his 100th hour of presiding. As a Presiding Officer, his dedication and dependability are to be commended. I am truly grateful for his willingness to preside as scheduling conflicts arise especially on the not-so-popular Fridays and Mondays. He and his enthusiastic scheduling staff make every effort to do their part to carry their share of the presiding load with a smile. It is with sincere appreciation that I announce the second recipient of the golden gavel award for the 108th Congress, Senator JOHN SUNUNU.

TRIBUTE TO E. LINWOOD "TIP" TIPTON

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to honor my friend E. Linwood Tipton. Tip, as he is known by

friends, will have devoted 38 years of his life to the dairy industry upon his retirement later this year.

Growing up on his family's farm in Missouri, Tip's interest in agriculture developed at a young age. He attended the University of Missouri where he earned a bachelor's degree in Agriculture and a master's degree in Economics. After serving his country as an officer in the U.S. Army Finance Corp, Tip returned to the dairy industry where his talent and leadership were recognized and he quickly advanced.

In 1987, Tip was appointed president and CEO of the Milk Industry Foundation and the International Ice Cream Manufacturers Association. Under his direction, the International Dairy Show began in 1988 and evolved into the Worldwide Food Expo, an event that currently features over 1,000 exhibitors from 150 different countries. He also created Dairy Forum, a major annual conference for dairy producers and processors. In 1990, he rallied the milk industry to form the International Dairy Foods Association, IDFA, an organization that encompasses the Milk Industry Foundation, the National Cheese Institute, and the International Ice Cream Association. Tip's innovative ideas and strong leadership have stimulated the growth of IDFA. Tip led the way in the creation of the extremely successful "Milk Mustache" and "Got Milk?" marketing campaigns.

His knowledge of the dairy industry and the economy has encouraged Secretaries of Agriculture and U.S. Trade Representatives of both political parties to seek his counsel. In 1984, President Reagan appointed Tip to the National Commission on Agricultural Trade and Export Policy. He has been active on Capitol Hill by testifying numerous times before congressional committees and initiating the annual Capitol Hill Ice Cream Party.

Nondairy organizations have also benefited from Tip's leadership. He founded the International Sweetener Colloquium so sugar and sweetener-using industries could assemble and discuss sugar policy. Tip is a past president and chairman of the board of the National Economists Club and the National Economic Education Foundation. He also has been active in the D.C. community by serving on the "Main Street" restoration project's board of directors.

Tip is truly a visionary in the dairy industry. From regulating dairy food retail packaging to implementing marketing campaigns, he has delved into every aspect of the dairy business. Tip's leadership should be commended and, therefore, I ask each of my colleagues to join me in honoring this remarkable man's dedication to the food industry, his community, and his Nation.

TRIBUTE TO BILL AND MEREDITH SCHROEDER

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I pay special tribute to two individuals whose foresight inspired a mecca in America's Heartland. Bill and Meredith Schroeder's interest in quilts has led to an exciting and beneficial business venture for the City of Paducah, KY, and the surrounding area. In 1984, the Schroeder's founded the American Quilter's Society, AQS, after discovering the need for worldwide recognition of the beauty of quilting as an art form and as a statement of our history and society.

The Schroeder's created a multi venue environment to promote the art and craft of quilting. Through the American Quilter's Society, they established a membership organization with participants from every U.S. State and territory, as well as from 80 countries. They created the AQS Quilt Show & Contest, the largest cash-juried contest in the world. Held each April in Paducah, KY, now recognized as "Quilt City USA®", the annual show brings millions of dollars to the tourism industry of western Kentucky. In 1991, the Museum of the American Quilter's Society opened. The museum has hosted hundreds of thousands of quilters and quilt lovers, and has enjoyed a history of growth and development.

Bill and Meredith Schroeder are extraordinary individuals who had a vision and worked hard to bring it to fruition. In appreciation for the Schroeder's commitment to fostering the respect of the general public for quilts and quilt makers, and for their unselfish desire to develop the economy of western Kentucky, I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in recognizing the outstanding contributions they have made to their community, to Kentucky, and to our Nation.

(At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

VOTE EXPLANATION

• Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. President, I was not present for the vote on S. 139, the Climate Stewardship Act of 2003. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."•

FOREST FIRE UPDATE

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today to give the Senate an update on the wildfires sweeping across Southern California—as the Senate continues to debate legislation to change our Nation's forest policy.

The situation in my State is at a critical juncture. If the weather continues to improve—as it is expected—then firefighters may be able to get a handle on the fires which continue to burn. This would be good news indeed.

I would also like to report that FEMA will shortly be announcing 6